

DROHMANN et al.  
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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

- 1-10. (canceled)
11. (new) A method for filtering and/or stabilizing an aqueous liquid comprising the step of passing a suspension consisting of a discontinuous phase and a continuous phase through a porous filter medium at a constant flow rate wherein polymer powders comprising
- (a) from 20 to 95% by weight of at least one thermoplastic polymer from the group consisting of polyolefins and polyamides,
  - (b) from 80 to 5% by weight of at least one further substance selected from the group consisting of silicates, carbonates, oxides, silica gel, kieselguhr, diatomaceous earth and crosslinked polyvinylactams, or mixtures thereof
- perform as filter aids and/or stabilizers for filtering and/or stabilizing an aqueous liquid, the polymer powders being obtained by compounding the thermoplastic polymers (a) and the further substances (b) in an extruder
12. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein, in addition to the filtration, stabilization of the aqueous liquid takes place simultaneously.
13. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the substance set forth under (b) is selected from the group consisting of alkali metal carbonates or alkaline earth metal carbonates, alkali metal hydrogencarbonates or alkaline earth metal hydrogencarbonates, the oxides or mixed oxides of subgroup 4 or main group 3, crosslinked polyvinylactams or mixtures thereof.
14. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the substance set forth under (b) is crosslinked polyvinylpolypyrrrolidone (PVPP).
15. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the substance set forth under (b) is selected from the group consisting of crosslinked polyvinylpolypyrrrolidone, TiO<sub>2</sub>, NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, KHCO<sub>3</sub>, CaCO<sub>3</sub>, silica gel, kieselguhr, diatomaceous earth, bentonite or mixtures thereof.

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16. (new) A process for filtering and/or stabilizing an aqueous liquid, which comprises using a filter aid or stabilizer a polymer powder comprising
  - a) from 20 to 95% by weight of at least one thermoplastic polymer from the group consisting of polyolefins and polyamides,
  - b) 80 to 5% by weight of at least one further substance selected from the group consisting of silicates, carbonates, oxides, silica gel, kieselguhr, diatomaceous earth, crosslinked polyvinylactams or mixtures thereof, the polymer powders being obtained by compounding the thermoplastic polymers (a) and the further substances (b) in an extruder.
17. (new) A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein, in addition to the filtration, simultaneous stabilization of the medium to be filtered takes place.
18. (new) A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein, during the filtration, the precoat filtration technique is used.
19. (new) A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the aqueous liquid is a liquid selected from the group consisting of fruit juice drinks or fermented beverages.
20. (new) A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the aqueous liquid is beer.
21. (new) A process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the polymer powders used have a mean particle size of from 1 to 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ .
22. (new) A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the particles of the polymer powders used are not spheroidal.
23. (new) A polymer comprising
  - a) from 20 to 95% by weight of at least one thermoplastic polymer from the group consisting of polyolefins and polyamides, and

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- b) 80 to 5% by weight of at least one further substance selected from the group consisting of silicates, carbonates, oxides, silica gel, kieselguhr, diatomaceous earth, crosslinked polyvinylactams or mixtures thereof, which is in the form of a powder and adapted for filtering and/or stabilizing aqueous fluids.